

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1, 7, 8, 11, and 12 as follows.

Please add new Claim 22 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) An anchoring system for a medical article comprising:
a medical article having an elongated body at least a portion of the medical article having a cross-sectional shape;
a retainer comprising a base, a cover and an adhesive spot, the cover being pivotally coupled to the base and movable between an open position and a closed position, the cover and the base cooperating to define a channel when the cover lies in the closed position, the channel being configured to receive at least the portion of the medical article and being sized at least as large as the cross-sectional shape of the portion of the medical article, and the adhesive spot being disposed upon the channel so as to form an adhesive bond with the medical article to provide an adhesive force in at least a transverse direction when such that the medical article is in contact with the adhesive spot lies in contact with the medical article when the cover is in the closed position and inhibits motion of the medical article relative to the retainer.
2. (Original) The anchoring system of Claim 1, the retainer further comprising at least one retainer member projecting into the channel and arranged to engage a portion of the medical article to inhibit axial movement of the medical article through the channel.
3. (Previously Presented) The anchoring system of Claim 1 wherein the channel is configured to receive a branching site of the medical article.
4. (Canceled).
5. (Canceled).
6. (Previously Presented) The anchoring system of Claim 1 wherein the adhesive spot has a thickness sufficient to exert a transverse force against the medical article to bias the retained portion of the medical article against an opposite side of the channel of the retainer.
7. (Currently Amended) A retainer for securing an elongated medical article, comprising:
a base having a first curvilinear section;

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a cover having a second curvilinear section and being attached to the base, the first curvilinear section and the second curvilinear section cooperating to define at least a portion of a channel when the cover is juxtaposed the base, the channel being sized so as to surround a portion of the elongated medical article; and

an adhesive spot being disposed upon at least one of the base and the cover so as to form an adhesive bond with the medical article to provide an adhesive force in at least a transverse direction when such that the medical article is in contact with the adhesive spot ~~lies in contact with the medical article when the portion of the elongated medical article is surrounded by the base and the cover.~~

8. **(Currently Amended)** A retainer for securing an elongated medical article, the retainer comprising:

a base;

a cover movably coupled to the base and having an open position and a closed position, the cover and the base cooperating to define a channel in the closed position and being configured to receive at least a portion of the medical article; and

an adhesive spot being disposed upon the channel so as to form an adhesive bond with the received portion of the medical article, the adhesive bond providing an adhesive force in at least a transverse direction so as to adhere such that the medical article to the retainer when the medical article is in contact with the adhesive spot, at least a portion of the adhesive spot lying ~~lies~~ under the cover when the cover lies in its closed position relative to the base.

9. (Canceled).

10. (Previously Presented) The retainer of Claim 8 further comprising a latching mechanism to releasably secure the cover in the closed position.

11. **(Currently Amended)** A method of releaseably anchoring an elongated medical article onto a patient which permits the medical article to be retained in the same position relative to the patient, comprising:

providing an anchoring device which provides an adhesive lower surface, and a retainer comprising a base, a cover, and an adhesive spot, the base further comprising at least a groove, and the base and the cover together forming a channel when the cover is secured in position over at least a portion of the base;

inserting at least a portion of the medical article into the groove;
positioning the cover over at least a portion of the groove;
securing the cover in a position overlying the covered portion of the groove to press a retained portion of the medical article against the adhesive spot to provide an adhesive force in at least a transverse direction ~~adhesion~~ between the adhesive spot and the retained portion of the medical article; and

securing the anchoring device to the skin of the patient via the adhesive lower surface of the anchoring device.

12. **(Currently Amended)** A method of releaseably anchoring an elongated medical article onto a patient which permits the medical article to be retained in the same position relative to the patient, comprising:

providing an anchoring device which provides an adhesive lower surface, and a retainer comprising a base, a cover, and an adhesive spot, the base further comprising at least a groove, and the base and the cover together forming a channel when the cover is secured in position over at least a portion of the base;

inserting at least a portion of the medical article into the groove;
positioning the cover over at least a portion of the groove;
securing the cover in a position overlying the covered portion of the groove to press a retained portion of the medical article between the adhesive spot and a side of the channel so as to provide an adhesive force in at least a transverse direction between the adhesive spot and the retainer portion of the medical article; and

securing the anchoring device to the skin of the patient via the adhesive lower surface of the anchoring device.

13. **(Previously Presented)** The retainer of Claim 1 further comprising a latching mechanism to releasably secure the cover in the closed position.

14. **(Previously Presented)** The anchoring system of Claim 1, wherein at least a portion of the base extends beyond the cover when the cover lies in the closed position.

15. **(Previously Presented)** The anchoring system of Claim 1 additionally comprising a receptacle in the base and at least one projection coupled to the cover such that the projection engages with the receptacle when the cover lies in the closed.

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16. (Previously Presented) The anchoring system of Claim 1, wherein a width of the channel varies in a lateral direction along a longitudinal length of the channel.

17. (Previously Presented) The retainer of Claim 7 further comprising a latching mechanism to releasably secure the cover when the cover juxtaposes the base.

18. (Previously Presented) The retainer of Claim 7, wherein the adhesive spot lies at least partially within the channel when the cover juxtaposes the base.

19. (Previously Presented) The anchoring system of Claim 7, wherein at least a portion of the base extends beyond the cover when the cover juxtaposes the base.

20. (Previously Presented) The anchoring system of Claim 7 additionally comprising a receptacle in the base and at least one projection coupled to the cover such that the projection engages with the receptacle when the cover lies juxtaposed to the base.

21. (Previously Presented) The anchoring system of Claim 7, wherein a width of the channel varies in a lateral direction along a longitudinal length of the channel.

22. (New) The anchoring system of Claim 1, wherein the adhesive bond restrains longitudinal movement of at least the portion of medical article in contact with the adhesive spot.